

PROJECT NORTH

SOBER HOUSING



Project NORTH (Navigation, Outreach, Recovery, Treatment, and Hope) is a free, confidential, and voluntary program administered by the Massachusetts Trial Court. Project NORTH provides court-based assistance with access to substance use treatment, recovery, and overdose prevention services. The project also assists eligible clients with transportation to services and has limited funding for MASH-certified sober housing.

PROJECT NORTH ELIGIBILITY

Project NORTH is available to court users in 13 locations. Participants must be impacted by substance use and involved with any court department. **Court involvement must be current or within the past year. Eligible individuals do not need to live in a Project NORTH community, but court-involvement must be in a Project NORTH court jurisdiction.*

PROJECT NORTH SOBER HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

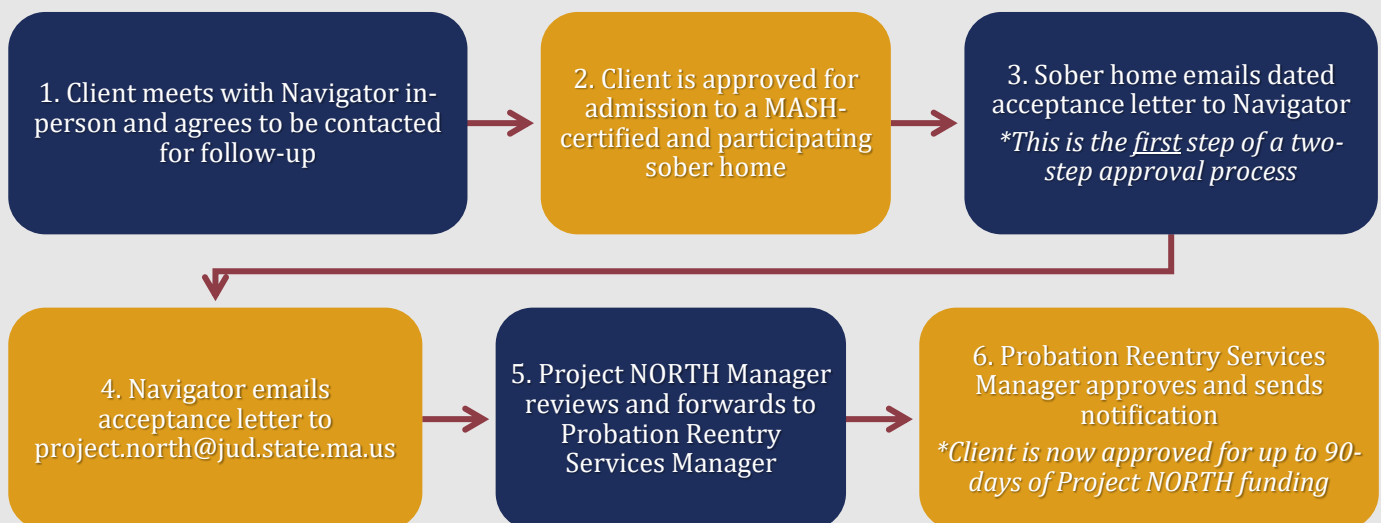
Project NORTH is a Recovery Support Navigation program with limited resources for sober housing. Project NORTH can provide **up to 90-days of funding** to eligible clients seeking admission to a certified and participating sober house. Sober housing funds are managed in collaboration with the Massachusetts Alliance for Sober Housing and the Massachusetts Probation Service. Individuals who need assistance with sober housing must:

- ✓ **Meet with a Navigator for an in-person intake** to ensure they meet Project NORTH and MASH sober home eligibility requirements.
- ✓ **Agree to communicate with the Recovery Support Navigator regularly after intake**, typically at 24 hours and 7 days.

LOCATIONS

Barnstable
Boston
Brockton
Fall River
Lawrence
Lowell
Lynn
New Bedford
Pittsfield
Quincy
Springfield
Taunton
Worcester

SOBER HOUSING REFERRAL AND APPROVAL PROCESS



project.north@jud.state.ma.us



mass.gov/project-north

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How long does Project NORTH sober housing funding last?

Project NORTH provides eligible clients with up to 90-days of funding in a certified and participating sober house. Extensions are not available.

2. What is the referral process for sober housing through Project NORTH?

Project NORTH clients who have completed an in-person intake with a Recovery Support Navigator must be approved for a space in a certified and participating sober home. The sober home must email a dated acceptance letter to the Recovery Support Navigator. *Acceptance by a certified and participating sober home is the first step in a two-step approval process.*

After receiving the acceptance letter, the Recovery Support Navigator will email the referral to project.north@jud.state.ma.us. Project NORTH leadership will review the referral and email it to the Probation Reentry Services Manager for final approval, including the Recovery Support Navigator and sober home Manager on the email. The Reentry Services Manager provides the final approval and communicates that to the group. *Funding does not begin without approval from Project NORTH leadership and the Probation Reentry Services Manager.*

3. Can Project NORTH funding be used at a sober home that is not MASH-certified?

No. Sober homes must be certified and participating in the Project NORTH program through the Massachusetts Alliance for Sober Housing (MASH). To become certified and/or sign up to participate in Project NORTH, sober homes should contact MASH: office@mashsoberhousing.org.

4. How does the Project NORTH sober home funding differ from the Probation-Parole sober housing initiative?

Probation and Parole collaborate with MASH to provide up to 56 days of sober housing for eligible individuals. Individuals interested in utilizing the Project NORTH sober housing resource upon conclusion of the 56 days of Probation/Parole funding should be referred to a Project NORTH Recovery Support Navigator for intake. *Clients should be referred to a Recovery Support Navigator before the end of the 56 day period to avoid any lapse in funding.*

5. Does the current or former court matter need to be a criminal case to be eligible for Project NORTH?

No. Individuals with matters in any court department are eligible for Project NORTH. This includes Boston Municipal Court, District Court, Housing Court, Juvenile Court, Probate and Family Court, and Superior Court. Matters can be criminal or civil.

6. Can clients use the funding in more than one certified and participating sober home?

Yes, if the full 90-days of funding have not been used. Clients must contact the Recovery Support Navigator for a referral to another sober home.

7. Can clients use the funding to cover past-due rent?

No. Funding can only be used for current and future days spent in a sober home.

8. Do clients qualify for funding if they already live in a sober home?

If the client meets eligibility requirements for Project NORTH and is in (or plans to move to) a certified and participating sober home they should contact a Recovery Support Navigator for intake and referral.

9. Are family members/loved ones of court-involved individuals eligible for sober housing assistance through Project NORTH?

No. Family members and loved ones can meet with Recovery Support Navigators for assistance in accessing services and support for themselves or their court-involved loved one, but they are not eligible for sober housing assistance through Project NORTH.

SOBER HOUSING CHECKLIST

- ☐ Is the client eligible for Project NORTH?
- ☐ For clients on probation, has the Probation Officer made the referral?
- ☐ Has an in-person intake been completed?
- ☐ Has the client agreed to be contacted for follow-up?
- ☐ Is the sober home certified and participating with Project NORTH?
- ☐ Did the sober home provide a dated acceptance letter?
- ☐ Has the acceptance letter been emailed to project.north@jud.state.ma.us?
- ☐ Has the Probation Reentry Manager approved the client for up to 90-days of funding?